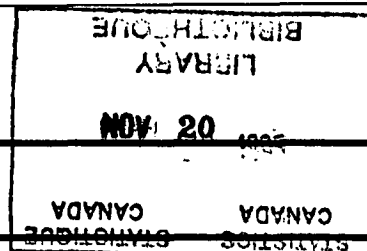


The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, November 20, 1995

For release at 8:30 a.m.



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- **Retail trade, September 1995** 2
In September, retailers maintained the sales level they reached in August.
- **Accidents, 1988-1993** 6
Canadians were less likely to have an accident in 1993 than in 1988, particularly 15- to 24-year-olds—the age group most at risk—who recorded the largest drop in accident rates. Still, in 1993, one in four adults reported that they had suffered an accident in the previous 12 months.

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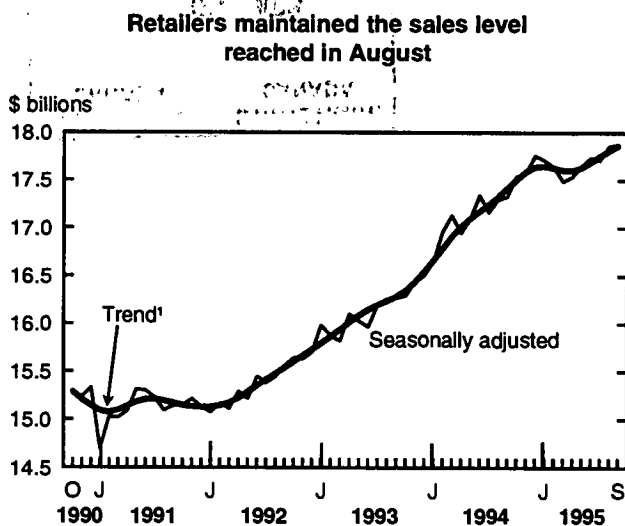
Canada

MAJOR RELEASES

Retail trade

September 1995 (preliminary)

In September, retailers maintained the sales level they reached in August. Following August's strong 0.9% gain, retail sales advanced 0.1% in September to \$17.9 billion. The sales trend strengthened over the latest four months after a relatively flat performance since the beginning of 1995. Before then, the sales trend generally grew from early 1992 to November 1994.



Data prior to 1991 have been adjusted to remove the Federal Sales Tax to be comparable to January 1991 and subsequent data.
¹ Trend represents smoothed seasonally adjusted data.

Cumulative sales from January to September 1995 were 3.4% higher than in the same period of 1994; removing the effect of price, the increase was closer to 1.2%. If the current growth rate for the first nine months of 1995 continues, sales will be up substantially over last year. However, the 1995 growth rate will be less than the 1994 rate. Last year, despite relatively stable prices throughout the year, retailers reported their strongest gain since 1992.

September brought sales increases to three of the seven sectors, accounting for 42% of total sales. Advancing the most in dollar terms were the food (+0.9%) and drug (+2.0%) sectors. Declines in the automotive (-0.2%), clothing (-1.4%) and general merchandise (-0.4%) sectors limited the gain in total sales.

Annual estimates for 1994

Annual sales estimates for 1994 are now available. Redesigned in 1993, this survey provides estimates on retailers' operating revenues and expenditures. For more information on these estimates, contact Pierre Desjardins (613-951-9682), Industry Division.

The sales declines in the automotive and general merchandise sectors contrasted with their strong performances since the start of the year. The auto sector's sales have been generally increasing since March 1995. Sales by the general merchandise sector have followed generally steady growth since mid-1993.

Retailers in five of the provinces and territories reported higher sales, while in six they posted decreases. Sales in Saskatchewan remained unchanged.

Food and drug store sales were up

Food retailers enjoyed a 0.9% gain in sales, enough to offset August's 0.4% decline. Monthly movements have been volatile since the beginning of the year, and despite September's gain, food store sales have been generally decreasing since February 1995.

After four successive declines, drug store sales advanced 2.0% in September. But despite this increase, sales for the latest 11 months have been below levels reached during the same period last year. Factors affecting this sector's slowdown include provincial legislation that prohibits drug stores from selling tobacco products and greater competition from supermarkets and discount stores for sales of various pharmaceutical products.

Sales in the automotive sector (includes new and used car dealers, gasoline service stations, and parts, accessories and service outlets) dropped 0.2% after a significant 2.6% gain in August. Operators of gasoline service stations and retailers of parts, accessories and services led the decline in September with decreases of 0.3% and 1.2% respectively. Sales by new and used motor vehicle dealers remained unchanged despite a 2.0% increase in the number of new motor vehicles sold.

In the other retail sectors, clothing store sales have levelled off after growing from January 1994 to March 1995. The trend in the furniture sector has been decreasing since February 1995 after strong and steady growth since February 1994.

Provinces at a glance

Monthly sales increased in five of the provinces and territories. Retailers in Quebec and Manitoba showed the best performances in September. Partly offsetting these were lower sales in Alberta and British Columbia.

Retail sales in Quebec, which had been falling for most of 1995, rose 1.4% in September, the third consecutive monthly increase. Moreover, for the first time this year, retail sales in Quebec were higher (+1.2%) than in the previous year.

Sales grew 1.3% in Manitoba after a 1.5% decline in August. September's gain marked the seventh increase this year for Manitoba retailers.

September's lower sales in Alberta (-1.1%) and British Columbia (-0.5%) offset similar increases in August. Sales in British Columbia made four consecutive gains starting in January 1995, but have since fluctuated.

Third quarter of 1995

From July to September, retail sales rose 1.0% compared with the second quarter of 1995, mostly due to the strong performance in August. This gain was the largest increase since the fourth quarter of 1994. Of the

four sectors reporting higher sales in the third quarter of 1995, the automobile and the other retail stores sectors were the main contributors. Partly offsetting the growth were decreases in the food, clothing and furniture sectors.

Early indications of October sales

Early indications of October sales point to a decline. Estimates indicate a drop in the number of new motor vehicles sold. In addition, employment in trade dropped 0.3% from September to October. Retail sales in the United States declined 0.2% in October after a 0.3% gain in September.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2299, 2398-2417 and 2420.

The September 1995 issue of *Retail trade* (63-005, \$20/\$200) will be available the second week of December. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Louise G  n  reux (613-951-3549). For analytical information, contact Pierre Desjardins (613-951-9682), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division. □

Retail sales

	Sept. 1994	June 1995 ^r	July 1995 ^r	Aug. 1995 ^r	Sept. 1995 ^p	Aug. 1995 to Sept. 1995	Sept. 1994 to Sept. 1995
seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions					% change	
Food	4,444	4,490	4,509	4,491	4,531	0.9	2.0
Supermarkets and grocery stores	4,116	4,138	4,164	4,142	4,170	0.7	1.3
All other food stores	328	352	346	349	361	3.3	10.1
Drug and patent medicine stores	1,010	977	975	974	994	2.0	-1.6
Clothing	1,037	1,113	1,082	1,075	1,060	-1.4	2.2
Shoe stores	143	158	153	153	147	-3.8	2.5
Men's clothing stores	135	137	136	135	132	-2.7	-2.4
Women's clothing stores	342	381	356	351	345	-1.7	0.8
Other clothing stores	417	436	437	436	437	0.2	4.8
Furniture	921	901	902	912	907	-0.5	-1.5
Household furniture and appliance stores	727	715	718	729	721	-1.0	-0.8
Household furnishings stores	193	186	184	183	186	1.3	-4.0
Automotive	6,197	6,340	6,307	6,470	6,454	-0.2	4.1
Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers	4,038	4,154	4,133	4,271	4,271	0.0	5.8
Gasoline service stations	1,181	1,222	1,220	1,230	1,226	-0.3	3.8
Automotive parts, accessories and services	978	963	954	968	957	-1.2	-2.2
General merchandise stores	1,760	1,909	1,896	1,901	1,894	-0.4	7.6
Retail stores not elsewhere classified	1,965	2,010	2,041	2,041	2,044	0.1	4.0
Other semi-durable goods stores	602	604	610	616	621	0.9	3.2
Other durable goods stores	457	465	472	465	461	-0.9	1.1
All other retail stores not elsewhere classified	907	942	959	960	961	0.1	6.0
Total, retail sales	17,334	17,741	17,713	17,863	17,883	0.1	3.2
Total excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers	13,297	13,586	13,580	13,592	13,613	0.2	2.4
Department store type merchandise	5,786	5,968	5,937	5,942	5,937	-0.1	2.6
Newfoundland	286	290	295	292	292	-0.1	2.2
Prince Edward Island	72	77	76	78	79	0.6	9.5
Nova Scotia	535	530	529	532	525	-1.3	-1.9
New Brunswick	394	424	428	429	431	0.5	9.2
Quebec	4,175	4,078	4,140	4,164	4,224	1.4	1.2
Ontario	6,420	6,637	6,586	6,684	6,673	-0.2	3.9
Manitoba	574	619	625	616	624	1.3	8.6
Saskatchewan	530	552	560	561	561	0.0	5.8
Alberta	1,781	1,861	1,844	1,864	1,845	-1.1	3.6
British Columbia	2,509	2,610	2,569	2,581	2,568	-0.5	2.3
Yukon	18	19	18	19	18	-3.6	4.6
Northwest Territories	39	42	42	43	45	4.2	14.0

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

Retail sales

	Sept. 1994	Aug. 1995 ^r	Sept. 1995 ^p	Sept. 1994 to Sept. 1995
	unadjusted			
	\$ millions			% change
Food	4,523	4,581	4,639	2.6
Supermarkets and grocery stores	4,197	4,223	4,278	1.9
All other food stores	326	358	361	10.8
Drug and patent medicine stores	1,009	971	986	-2.2
Clothing	1,103	1,061	1,125	2.1
Shoe stores	160	156	163	1.7
Men's clothing stores	127	111	125	-1.6
Women's clothing stores	363	338	365	0.5
Other clothing stores	453	455	474	4.5
Furniture	964	926	933	-3.2
Household furniture and appliance stores	764	733	741	-3.0
Household furnishings stores	201	193	193	-4.0
Automotive	6,163	6,749	6,321	2.6
Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers	3,990	4,410	4,149	4.0
Gasoline service stations	1,211	1,357	1,243	2.7
Automotive parts, accessories and services	962	981	928	-3.5
General merchandise stores	1,702	1,856	1,828	7.4
Retail stores not elsewhere classified	1,959	2,134	2,032	3.7
Other semi-durable goods stores	594	641	621	4.5
Other durable goods stores	453	476	441	-2.7
All other retail stores not elsewhere classified	912	1,016	971	6.4
Total, retail sales	17,422	18,278	17,865	2.5
Total excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers	13,432	13,868	13,715	2.1
Department store type merchandise	5,824	5,931	5,934	1.9
Newfoundland	287	309	292	1.7
Prince Edward Island	74	89	80	8.9
Nova Scotia	543	548	524	-3.4
New Brunswick	397	450	435	9.8
Quebec	4,197	4,297	4,236	0.9
Ontario	6,457	6,710	6,644	2.9
Manitoba	570	627	614	7.7
Saskatchewan	521	574	555	6.5
Alberta	1,784	1,932	1,833	2.8
British Columbia	2,538	2,678	2,589	2.0
Yukon	18	22	18	3.9
Northwest Territories	38	43	44	16.2

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

Accidents

1988-1993

Canadians were less likely to have an accident in 1993 than in 1988, particularly 15- to 24-year-olds—the age group most at risk. That age group recorded the largest drop in accident rates, largely because of a substantial decline in the rate of motor vehicle accidents.

In 1993, about 3.9 million Canadians aged 15 and over reported having at least one accident during the previous year, for a total of 4.8 million separate incidents. Motor vehicle accidents and sports accidents each accounted for 27% of all incidents, followed by work accidents (21%) and home accidents (14%).

Despite the decline in accident rates, the cost was considerable. Four out of every five accidents resulted in injury, almost half of which required medical attention in a hospital, usually on an out-patient basis.

Estimated in-patient general hospital costs associated with accidents in 1993 amounted to about \$1.5 billion. Out-of-pocket expenses totalled another \$791 million.

Accident rate highest among men aged 15 to 24

The overall accident rate reported in 1993 was 223 for every 1,000 individuals, down from 254 in 1988. But not everyone was equally likely to have been involved in an accident. Generally, men had higher rates than women, and accident rates tended to decline with advancing age.

Accident rates for men aged 15 to 24 fell from 655 per 1,000 individuals in 1988 to 514 per 1,000 in 1993, whereas among older men, rates remained relatively stable.

Accidents among women also peaked at ages 15 to 24, but their rate was much lower—306 per 1,000 in 1993, down from 404 per 1,000 in 1988.

The decline in the overall accident rate was largely attributable to fewer motor vehicle accidents among 15- to 24-year-olds. One factor may have been a lower level of alcohol consumption. Accidents tend to be more common among drinkers than non-drinkers, and evidence suggests that people in the 15-to-24 age group are drinking less. Random spot checks for impaired driving and tighter controls on adolescent drivers may also have had an impact.

Note to readers

This article in Health reports uses data from the 1988 and 1993 General Social Surveys to examine the incidence and consequences of accidents among people aged 15 and over. The sample was composed of 10,385 households; one respondent in each household was interviewed.

The General Social Surveys covered four types of accidents: motor vehicle, sports, work and home. An accident was defined as an incident that met one or more of the following criteria: it interrupted the respondents normal activities for at least half a day; it caused out-of-pocket expenses of at least \$200; or it required medical attention from a physician or nurse.

In fact, from 1987 to 1992, the death rate due to motor vehicle accidents declined for all age groups.

One-third of all accidents entailed financial loss

Accidents impose a heavy financial burden. In 1993, nearly one-third (1.5 million) of all accidents resulted in financial loss.

Motor vehicle accidents accounted for almost 70%, or \$543 million, of total out-of-pocket expenses, for which individuals did not expect reimbursement.

The average out-of-pocket expense for each accident was \$662, but amounts varied by type of accident. Motor vehicle accidents were by far the most costly, averaging \$882, followed by home (\$453), work (\$433) and sports (\$249) accidents.

Accidents are also a major cause of injury and lost productivity. While in-patient hospital care was required in only 5% of all accidents, this represented 248,000 hospital admissions totalling about 2.5 million hospital days in 1993.

Between April 1, 1992, and March 31, 1993, the average daily cost of in-patient care in general hospital was \$610. Based on this average, in-patient hospital costs associated with accidents amounted to about \$1.5 billion. This figure does not include costs for ambulatory care or follow-up treatment.

The vol. 7, no. 2 *Health reports* (82-003, \$34/\$112) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact the Information Requests Unit (613-951-1746), Health Statistics Division. ■

OTHER RELEASES

Trusted pension funds

Second quarter 1995

When financial market conditions favour investment in equities, the market value of assets held by trusted pension funds thrives. Such was the case in the second quarter of 1995. These assets reached \$336.8 billion in value at June 30, 1995, up 4.5% from the previous quarter. Growth in equities was responsible for almost 60% of this increase. On a year-over-year basis, assets rose 13.4%, significantly better than the 4.1% increase between the second quarters of 1993 and 1994.

The steady rise of stock prices (as reflected in the growth in the TSE 300 index) during the second quarter of 1995 not only influenced the market value of the total portfolio, it also led to higher levels of net income.

Second-quarter net income (income minus expenditures) in 1995 was \$6.7 billion, 63% higher than one year earlier. This represents the largest annual increase ever for a second quarter. The jump was spurred by a significant rise in profits from the sale of securities (+134%), combined with reduced losses on those sales (-89%). Both were direct results of increased stock prices.

In the second quarter of 1995, profits represented 24% of total fund income, almost twice the proportion one year earlier. This income source has become increasingly important to trusted pension funds. Investment income, though still the largest component of fund income, has suffered from lower interest rates and has grown little over the past five years.

Stocks and bonds have always been the cornerstones of trusted pension fund portfolios. Even so, the second quarter marked the first time that stocks accounted for the largest share of assets (40% versus 39% for bonds). At the end of the first quarter of 1993 (when quarterly data on market value first became available), bonds represented 43% of total assets, compared with 37% for stocks.

This gradual shift to stocks can be linked to changes in the portfolio of public sector funds. While the private sector's asset mix has remained relatively constant over the past 10 quarters, public sector funds have been increasing their exposure to stocks. As their investments in fixed-income securities mature, these funds have been moving a growing share of available money into equities. Because of their lower level of risk, however, bonds still represent a significant share of total assets.

These estimates are from a quarterly sample of funds holding 86% of total assets, supplemented by

data from an annual census of all trusted pension funds.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5749.

The second quarter 1995 issue of *Quarterly estimates of trusted pension funds* (74-001, \$18/\$60) will be available in December. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Thomas Dufour (613-951-2088), Pensions Section, Labour Division (fax: 613-951-4087). ■

Sales of natural gas

September 1995 (preliminary)

Natural gas sales totalled 3 511 485 000 cubic metres in September, up 0.4% from September 1994. All three sectors (residential, commercial and industrial) recorded higher sales.

Sales of natural gas

	Sept. 1995 ^P	Sept. 1994	Sept. 1994 to Sept. 1995 %
	'000 cubic metres		change
Sales, all sectors	3 511 485	3 499 110	0.4
Residential	450 699	448 782	0.4
Commercial	371 694	369 230	0.7
Industrial	1 792 090	1 988 321	0.3
Direct	897 002	692 777	
	Jan.-Sept. 1995 ^P	Jan.-Sept. 1994	Jan.- Sept. 1994 to Jan.- Sept. 1995 %
	'000 cubic metres		change
Sales, all sectors	45 335 460	44 199 872	2.6
Residential	10 738 307	11 180 390	-4.0
Commercial	7 944 595	8 380 194	-5.2
Industrial	18 194 064	18 200 622	8.2
Direct	8 458 494	6 438 666	

^P Preliminary figures.

Year-to-date sales to the end of September 1995 were up 2.6% from the same period in 1994. Year-to-date sales decreased to the residential (-4.0%) and commercial (-5.2%) sectors because of mild weather in January and February 1995. Sales to the industrial sector (includes direct sales) again maintained strong growth, posting an 8.2% increase from the same period last year.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1052-1055.

The September 1995 issue of *Gas utilities* (55-002, \$14/\$140) will be available the third week of December. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Gary Smalldridge (613-951-3567), Energy Section, Industry Division.

Telephone statistics

September 1995

The 13 major telephone systems reported monthly revenues of \$1,180.9 million in September 1995, up 1.2% from September 1994.

Operating expenses amounted to \$926.8 million, up 6.1% from September 1994. Net operating revenues totalled \$254.1 million, a 13.4% decrease from September 1994.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 355.

The September 1995 issue of *Telephone statistics* (56-002, \$9/\$90) will be released shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact J.R. Slattery (613-951-2205), Services, Science and Technology Division.

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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Business expenditure profiles, 1992**
Continues one that has shown for the first time that expenditures on business equipment have increased for every state of employment income. This was an increase of almost 10% from 1991 to the state of business equipment income.
- **Monthly survey of manufacturing, April 1995**
After five months of continuous improvement, the value of manufacturing shipments grew to \$27.7 billion, up 1.7% in April over a 1.1% increase in March. The leading of output index has remained at 104.1 since the start of the month.
- **Industrial production price index, May 1995**
Down by 0.1% from the previous month, the index of industrial production in price for manufacturing goods posted a -0.1% to May, the highest rate among members of the G-7.
- **Retail materials price index, May 1995**
The index rose 0.4% to May. One of price index up 0.3% and rose the rate contributor to the change.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Air carrier traffic at Canadian airports,

October-December 1994 (last issue)

Catalogue number 51-005

(Canada: \$39/\$130; United States: US\$47/US\$156;
other countries: US\$55/US\$182).

Industry price indexes, September 1995

Catalogue number 62-011

(Canada: \$21/\$210; United States: US\$26/US\$252;
other countries: US\$30/US\$294).

Traveller accommodation statistics, 1993-94

Catalogue number 63-204

(Canada: \$27; United States: US\$33; other countries:
US\$38).

**Touriscope: International travel, advance
information, September 1995, vol. 11, no. 9**

Catalogue number 66-001P

(Canada: \$7/\$70; United States: US\$9/US\$84; other
countries: US\$10/US\$98).

Health reports, 1995, vol. 7, no. 2

Catalogue number 82-003

(Canada: \$34/\$112; United States: US\$41/US\$135;
other countries: US\$48/US\$157).

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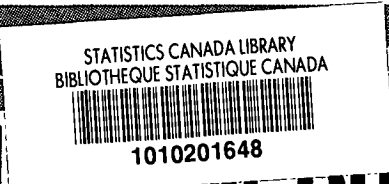
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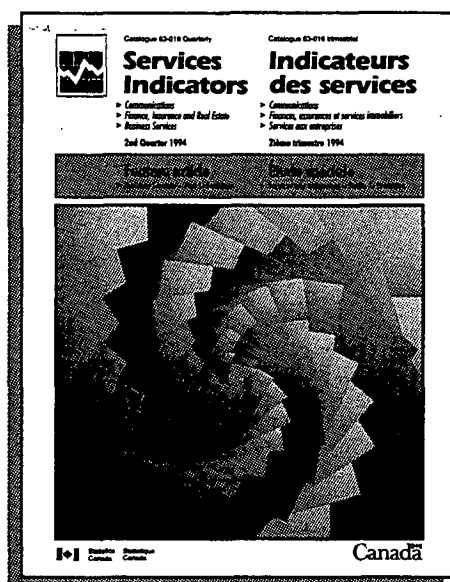
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